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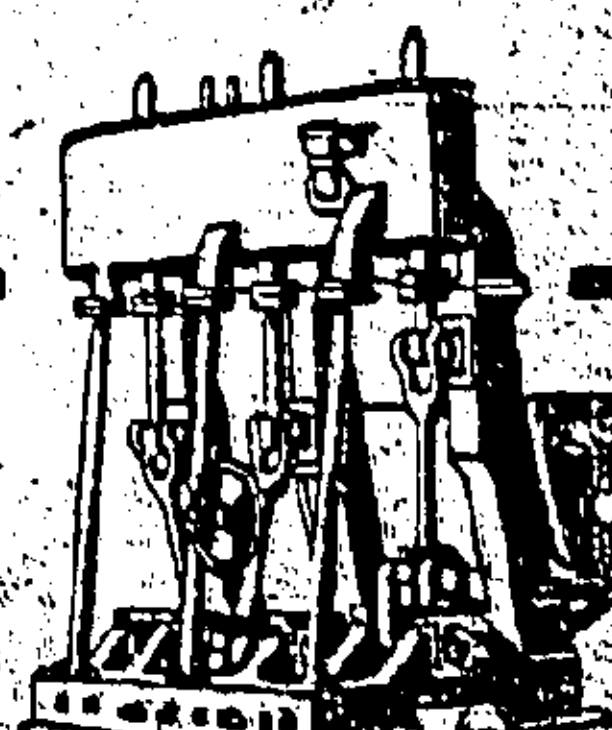
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THE WAR.
TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.
(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

ITALIAN NAVAL OPERATIONS.
BRILLIANT AND SUCCESSFUL MANOEUVRE.
New York, Nov. 5.
Associated Press representatives at Italian Headquarters state that the retreat of the Italian Army has produced new conditions that may make a naval action the key to the whole situation.
The Italian Fleet, commanded by the Duke of the Abruzzi, by a brilliant manoeuvre, has seized the naval strategic point of Grado and the vast lagoon whose entrance it guards.
The Fleet commands the whole of the Gulf of Trieste front for 40 kilometres to Monfalcone, which is five miles from Trieste.
The enemy's advance has brought him along a considerable stretch of the coast of the Gulf, hence the possibilities of a naval action can be realised.
It is significant that there has been intense naval activity in the Gulf of Trieste recently.

SPEEDY AND VIGOROUS NAVAL ACTION URGED.
Paris, Nov. 5.
Naval experts urge a speedy and vigorous action by the Entente in the Adriatic Sea, and declare that sea planes could compel the Austrian Fleet to leave the harbours, enabling the Allied fleets to strike a decisive blow.

BRITISH TROOPS IN ITALY
London, Nov. 5.
Reuter's Correspondent at Italian Headquarters, telegraphing on Nov. 4, states:—
The passage of British contingents to the Front has been the occasion for touching manifestations of welcome and friendliness. Men and women of all classes flocked to the stations, offering cigarettes, fruit and flowers to the tired men who responded gratefully. They left an impression of cheerfulness and vitality which has encouraged the onlookers. The demonstrations assumed greater proportions along the country roads, the inhabitants everywhere rushing to greet the troops. The former were much impressed with the stalwart forms of the latter, and there were continuous shouts of *viva l'Inghilterra*.

ENEMY REACH THE TAGLIAMENTO.
London, Nov. 5.
An Italian official message states:—
The enemy has reached the right bank of the Tagliamento, to the north of Pizzano, and is intensifying the pressure against our left wing.
GERMANS CLAIM 6,000 MORE PRISONERS.
London, Nov. 5.
A German official message states:—
The Austro-Germans gained a crossing at the middle of the Tagliamento and are advancing to the west.
We took 6,000 prisoners and a number of guns.

THE BALKAN ZONE
London, Nov. 5.
A German official message states:—
English battalions, attacking to the southward of the Jacobo between the Vardar and Lake Doiran, heavily defeated the enemy.

AUSTRO-GERMAN PROPAGANDA IN ITALY.
London, Nov. 5.
The question of the Austro-German propaganda in Italy, which, it is alleged, has been a strong factor in the happenings on the Italian Front, has been raised in the House of Commons.
Colonel Yates asked what steps the Government were taking to deny the Austro-German falsehoods regarding Great Britain, disseminated amongst the Italian troops by Austro-German agents and by means of special propaganda by means of pamphlets dropped from aeroplanes.
Mr. Macpherson, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, replied that the Italian Military authorities were being asked to supply the British Government with copies of this propaganda. The best means for defeating the objects of the propaganda were being considered, but he could not promise that the means selected would be published.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCES IN LONDON.
London, Nov. 5.
Reuter is informed that the conferences held in London, last week, were among the most important during the war.
Mr. Painlevé, the French Premier and Minister of War, and General Petain, had daily conferences with Mr. Lloyd George and the War Cabinet.
Complete identity of view was established regarding the situation arising from the Italian position, and also regarding the future conduct of the war.

THE FORTHCOMING ALLIED CONFERENCE.
London, Nov. 5.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour stated that he hoped the Allied Conference at Paris on the conduct of the war would be held in the middle of November. He could not, at present, give any information regarding the conference on the war aims.

WARSHIPS "FAR BIGGER THAN THE QUEEN ELIZABETH"
Paris, Nov. 5.
The Temps Naval Expert, who has visited the British shipyards, says that he saw at Fairfields Yards at Glasgow, warships far bigger than the Queen Elizabeth.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.
ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.
London, Nov. 5.
A Russian official message states:—
There was violent enemy artillery activity to the west of Sventy Laka.
OPERATIONS IN THE CAUCASUS.
London, Nov. 5.
A Russian official message states:—
We attacked the Turks on the Kalka sector, on the Black Sea, capturing the first line trenches and in some places the third line, and also a great amount of booty.

NORWAY'S SHIPPING LOSSES.
London, Nov. 5.
An official message from Norway states that thirteen Norwegian merchant ships of 10,000 tons each, and 20,000 tons of cargo were lost during October and November.

INTIMATIONS

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE.

NOTICE TO PERSONS PROCEEDING TO THE UNITED STATES.

NOTICE is hereby given that under the revised regulations of the government of the United States it is required that all persons entering the United States from abroad shall present, before admission thereon, a passport or a document in the nature of a passport, issued by a consular officer of the United States in the country from which they depart for the United States and also raised by a consular officer of the United States at the port of actual embarkation for the United States or a port of transshipment. In the case of aliens not of the Chinese race it also is required that the passport be supported by a sworn declaration, in triplicate, indicating the identity, nationality and objects of such aliens entering the United States at this time to which declaration shall be attached a signed photograph of the bearer. This declaration shall be presented at the office of the consular officer issuing the passport of each alien at the time of presenting such passport for visa. Blank forms for making such declarations are to be had at all hotels, steamship offices, and at this Consulate General.

Commencing with November 15th passports and supporting declaration shall be presented for visa verification at least two weeks previous to the proposed departure of the alien for the United States.

GEORGE E. ANDERSON,
Consul General.
Hongkong, Nov. 3, 1914. 2265

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

NOTIFICATION.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on the 27th November prox., at 3 p.m., at the Public Works Department, there is a committee presided by the Director of the Public Works and composed of three members appointed by the Government, the Attorney General being present. TENDERS will be received for the SUPPLY and LAYING of PIPES for CANALIZATION of SALT WATER (Extension).

The conditions of the tendering, the specifications and the plans of the canalization are open to the public at the Public Works Department, where they can be examined all week days from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Yasuo, Public Works Department,
18th October, 1914.

RAUL M. DE FARIA e MAIA,
Engineer Director.
2230

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**HINDENBURG'S TALE TO
DR. MICHAELIS.**

**BRITISH FAILURE AND FRENCH
FUTILITY.**
ALL FRONTS STRONGER THAN
EVER!

The German Chancellor in his speech in the Main Committee of the Reichstag on Tuesday, according to the Berlin wireless report, read the following message from Hindenburg, remarking that the success on land corresponded to the success at sea, and that in the month of July 311,000 tons of shipping had been sunk.

Nothing proves the effect of our U boat warfare more than the costly stubbornness with which the English and French continue their desperate efforts to defeat us militarily this year on the Western Front. With the employment of the heaviest amount of material and men, the English after the most careful preparation tried for the second time recently to break through our Flanders position.

They had prepared strong forces in conjunction with their Allies to carry out the breaking-through, in order to proceed to the capture of the Flanders coast and the destruction of the point of support of the U boats. On both occasions the formidable enemy assault failed, the result being a heavy loss. In spite of the reckless use of human material the enemy got no further than the crater field before our positions.

FRENCH INEFFECTIVE.

For the same reason as in Flanders, the French on August 20 launched an assault on a large scale. The counter-effect of our artillery considerably deferred the commencement of the enemy attack. In the midst of their successful counter-attacks, showed their excellent power of attack. Here again the French only succeeded in gaining possession of some insignificant portions of crater field, as a result of which they suffered the most formidable losses. These results have been attained by the unsurpassed conduct of our brave troops and their superior leadership.

As a result of the further development and flexibility of the fighting method of our army, attacks by the enemy near Lens, on the Aisne, in the Western Champagne, did not yield the enemy any gain, in spite of the masses used. We can look forward with confidence to the development of further fighting on the Western Front, which, although it may lead to small local successes on account of the enemy's preponderance, will not on the whole react against our military situation, which is favourable throughout.

In the East our troops in defence and attack have gained new victories. Enemy massed assaults collapsed everywhere with heavy losses. By our attacks the enemy positions were overrun, and in the rapid course of victory a great portion of the Russian Army was thrown back. Extensive territory of our faithful Ally has been regained.

WRECKED TRAIN ETC.

Once again has the Army proved what the force of skill and the will to conquer can accomplish against an enemy greatly superior in numbers. The nerve-trying watchfulness and increased vigilance of

extensive position call for the most faithful execution of duty of a large portion of our Army. The men will now in this fourth year of war willingly and cheerfully bear all renunciation and sacrifice of their habits of home life and in the end will for victory will everywhere accomplish deeds of heroism. In the Balkans and Asia German troops are fighting side by side with the faithful and brave Bulgarian and Turkish allies. There far from home, a faithful watch will also be kept.

A glance at all fronts shows that militarily at the beginning of the fourth year of war we are in a more favourable position than ever before. (Rest of message unintelligible.)—Admiralty, per Wireless Press.

**PEKING NEWSPAPER PREMISES
SMASHED BY SOLDIERS.**

The "Peking Gazette" of October 30th says:

The office of the Peking Jih Pao was the scene of indescribable disorder and rioting created by soldiers belonging to the Yi Chan of General Chiang Kwei-ti. About twenty of these soldiers arrived at the office of the Peking Jih Pao yesterday morning at about 10 o'clock. They were in uniform but all wore a civilian garment outside. One report says that they had with them revolvers and swords but it is certain that they were armed with heavy sticks and clubs. They demanded to see Chu Chi, the proprietor of the paper, to find out why he had published a report stating that General Chiang Kwei-ti, their chief, had died whereas he was quite well. Certain employees of the office received the soldiers but immediately the latter took action. They smashed all the glass windows of which there were quite a number and damaged the furniture that was in the room. Entering the proprietor's room they scattered the type to the ground and did some damage to the machinery. The principal printing room were not touched as they were behind the main office and could not be reached.

The soldiers were inside about half an hour. After leaving the office in the Chenkiang-Hutong the soldiers said they would go to Chienmen and smash the branch office there also. They were, however, frustrated by the police and so scattered. The chief of police called on the Vice-Minister of War yesterday in this connection, but is not known what arrangement has been made. Mr. Chu Chi, proprietor of the paper, has filed a claim for damages and demanded to have the soldiers punished.

It appears, however, the raid was carried out with the consent of the officer in charge of the "outer office" of the Yi Chan. Mr. Feng, interviewed by a correspondent, the officer hotly denounced the publication by the said paper of a report that was untrue. He said it was a deplorable thing to say his general was dead, whereas he was actually alive. He alleged that the Peking Jih Pao refused to correct the report when asked to do so. This was why the soldiers were sent.

In justice to the Peking Jih Pao it should be said that a correction was promptly made yesterday morning as the result of the representation. Even in the absence of the correction the soldiers had no right to take the law into their own hands. It is suspected that more lies behind the whole affair.

PROSPEROUS TRADERS.

**HUGE DECREASE IN CASES OF
BANKRUPTCY.**

We are daily being reminded of the number of butchers, bakers, grocers, and other harassed tradesmen who are retiring from business in account of the war, the presumption being that they have sought relief in the Bankruptcy Court, says a London paper.

The report of the Board of Trade on bankruptcy in 1913 does not support this view.

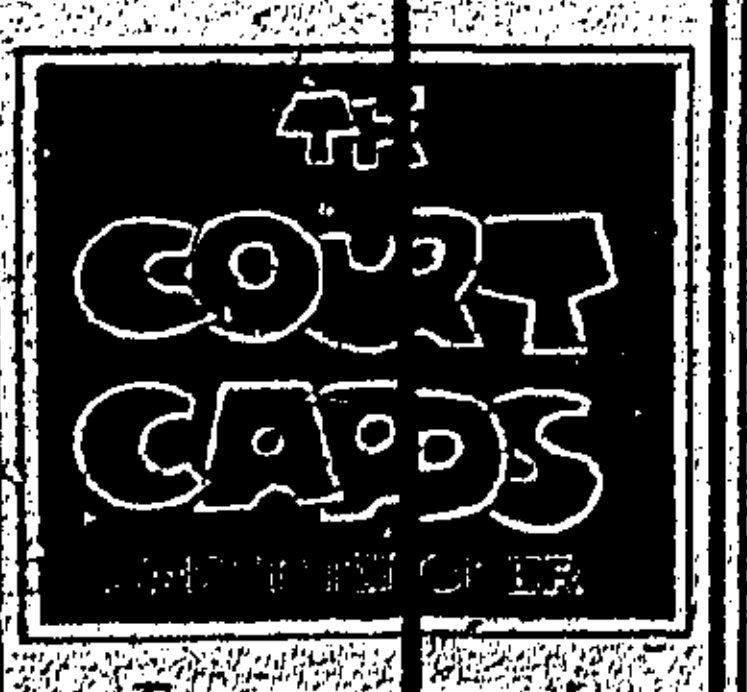
Last year the number of receiving orders and administration orders under the Bankruptcy Act in England and Wales was 1,537, with liabilities, as estimated by debtors of £2,731,750. This is not nearly the total in 1913, and shows a decrease of 822 in 1915, when the number was 2,379, with liabilities of £3,731,280.

There is a similar decline in the number of deeds under deeds of Arrangement Acts. Last year 1,059, compared with 1,652 in 1915 and 2,411 in 1913. Here are a few trades:

	Failed in 1914	Failed in 1915
Butchers	34	56
Bakers	24	148
Grocers	75	247
Publicans, &c.	19	97
Green grocers	17	40
Farmers	53	78

Failures in Scotland and Ireland tell the same tale of decreasing "sequestrations" and bankruptcies.

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No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	215	100	15	15	15
No. 3 Dock, Kowloon	225	100	15	15	15
Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	125	100	15	15	15
TAI KOW					
General Dock, T.K.	440	100	15	15	15
JACKSON					
Hope Dock, Second Dock, C.	50	100	15	15	15

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(2104)

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

THE WESTERN FRONT.

BRITISH RAIDS.

LONDON, Nov. 5.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
Yesterday's raid at Gavrelle resulted in the capture of fourteen prisoners, four machine-guns and two trench mortars. Nearly 100 Germans were killed and all the dugouts were destroyed and set on fire.
The Sherwood Foresters, yesterday evening, carried out a raid to the north-east of Lens, capturing a few prisoners and killing a number of the enemy. Our casualties were light.
Our fire dispersed reconnaissance parties in the neighbourhood of Hollabeke and Rentele.

POWERFUL AND DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

LONDON, Nov. 5.
A German official message states:—
There was a powerful and destructive fire on the Yser lowland, in the region between Houthulst Wood and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

THE RAID ON AN AMERICAN INSTRUCTION SALIENT.

GENERAL PERSHING'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.
General Pershing reports that three American soldiers were killed, five wounded and twelve captured, on Saturday, when the Germans attacked an instruction salient, before daylight, putting down a heavy barrage and cutting off the salient.
The enemy's losses are not known. A wounded German was taken prisoner.

PEACE MEETING BROKEN UP.

LONDON, Nov. 5.
A peace meeting at Swansea was broken up, the crowd invading the platform and expelling Mr. C. Roden Burton and other speakers.
[Mr. Charles Roden Burton was private secretary to his father, Sir T. F. Burton, Bart., when the latter was Governor of South Australia in 1897-8. He was also the first President of the South London Branch of the Workers' Educational Association. During 1914-5 he went on a political mission, with his brother, Mr. Noel Burton, M.P., with the object of securing the admission of Bulgaria on the side of the Allies.]

NO TRUCE WITH "BLOODMEN."

The entire front advertisement page of the Daily Mail, August 25th, is devoted to an article in big type, headed "The Holy War," urging the nation to have nothing to do with those who would parley with the enemy. It begins with the following quotation from Bunyan's "Holy War":

"The Bloodmen are a people that have their name derived from the malignity of their nature and from the fury that is in them to execute it upon the town of Mansoul. They land high under the Dogstar, and by that they are governed as to their intellects. These people are always in league with the Doubters, for they jointly make question of the faith and fidelity of the men of the town of Mansoul."

The article continues:—
"We are now in the fourth year of the war, and there are subtle counselors who urge us to parley with our enemy. There is no harm they say, in friendly talk. Let us remember, then, what our enemy is, what he has done, and what he means to do. The Bloodmen of 'The Holy War' are the blonde beasts of Nietzsche. They represent the power of evil: cruelty, rape, slavery, murder. It is a truce with this power of evil for which our Doubters work."

The article then enumerates the many authenticated cases in which the Germans have carried out their policy of organised evil:—
"The extermination of the Hereroes in Africa; the raping of thousands of women and girls in Belgium and France; the transportation of thousands to slavery; the massacre of whole streets and villages of people; the placing of non-combatants in front of their troops in battle as shields; the ill-treatment of prisoners of war; the drowning of twenty-nine survivors of the Belgian Prince when a submarine emerged with them on deck; the bombing from airplanes of French and British hospitals, etc. It concludes:—

"Such are the Bloodmen with whom we are asked to parley by their allies, the Doubters. Surely there can be no truce or turning back until this power of evil is broken. To have any truce with the enemy would be to betray our soldiers and our sailors, who know they can defeat Germany if they are only given time and support. There is only one peace, the peace of victory; all others are delusion and snare. Let us then go forward without doubting for this is a holy war against the power of evil, and victory brings peace finally."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE FALL OF BEERSHEBA.

GRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF THE OPERATION.

LONDON, Nov. 5.
Reuters' correspondent at the Egyptian Headquarters, telegraphing on November 1st, says:—The work which has hidden the operations on the Palestine Front has been partially lifted and has revealed that the Turks have received a blow, in the capture of Beersheba, which has considerably wounded him.

The achievement has necessitated weeks and months of unrelenting toil preparing for the coup, and in consequence the result has been an almost machine-like precision.

The ominous quietness preserved on the battle front was broken five days ago, by the guns vigorously shelling the Turkish lines. The weight and extent of the fire transcended anything experienced hitherto. Simultaneously, the first welcome rain and thunderstorm of the winter season occurred, helping to harden the surface and facilitating the movements of men. Our fire was most intense towards the northern extremity, Beersheba and there was nothing to show that a blow was about to fall at the other extremity, thirty miles distant.

Nevertheless, the Turks were suspicious and reconnoitred around Beersheba claiming success therefor. The truth is that British mounted troops held up the Turks, inflicting heavy casualties, enabling the infantry to advance and compelling the enemy retirement, in ignorance of our dispositions.

Meanwhile, frequent reconnaissances and aerial photographs familiarised the Command with the nature of the ground, which, around Beersheba, gently undulates. It is traversed from north to south by deep "wadys" the town lying in a depression, along the banks of the Wady Sabab. The enemy defences extended to the north and west and also to the south, from three to five miles from Beersheba, constituting a somewhat isolated advance post guarding the Turkish extreme left. The position was one of great natural strength, the enemy believing it to be impregnable. It was well provided with guns and machine-guns, and was garrisoned by two complete regiments, other detachments of infantry and a brigade of cavalry.

The attack was a complete surprise for the enemy, who was cornered and practically wiped out, almost before the news of his plight reached the enemy headquarters. All arms participated but the lion's share fell to the cavalry, who marched fifty miles, chiefly at night, in order to outflank the enemy. Anzac mounted troops took the outer circuit, the Yeomanry forming a junction with the infantry.

The advance began at nightfall, and succeeded in completely out-flanking the enemy. The Anzacs met with the first opposition, ten miles southeast of Beersheba. They were later held up by a strong redoubt at Telesaba, defending the eastern approaches to the town. While the fight was here progressing, our light horse captured a position a little to the east, across a wady, establishing themselves on the road to Hebron, cutting off escape by that direction. Telesaba fell two hours later, but a strong force, with guns and machine guns, were holding out at a wady barring the approach to the town. Mounted Anzac reinforcements thereupon brilliantly attacked, at sunset, and charged the strong positions on the crumbling banks of the dry wady, by the pale light of the moon. Those on horseback used fixed bayonets as lances and literally swept over all opposition and carried the town with a rush.

Meanwhile, west of Beersheba, where the defences were strongest and aided by great natural advantages, the infantry, after barely an hour's artillery preparation, rushed the first line. Men of the London Regiment captured hill 1,070, a strong redoubt. The bombardment wiped out the majority of the enemy machine guns, although it failed to obliterate the wiring. Nevertheless, the infantry, in most keen spirits, tore down the barbed wire with their hands.

Subsequently, the main position was attacked at midday, and was captured in twenty-five minutes. Towards the left, among the hills, north-west of Beersheba, the Turks continued to oppose, but a combined movement drove them headlong, at sunset.

One instance of gallantry was a Lewis gun detachment, charging a field battery, driving out the Turks and capturing the guns.

A most satisfactory feature is the smallness of the casualties, which do not attain the sum total of our prisoners.

We entered Beersheba in the morning. The feature of the whole operation was remarkable staff work, enabling all movements to dovetail with such exactitude and be timed with such precision.

TURKISH REPORT.

A Turkish communiqué says:—
There is intense artillery activity at Gaza.

Our batteries effectively replied to the enemy's cruisers bombarding the coast.

THE BRITISH FRONT.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

LONDON, Nov. 4.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
London Territorials successfully raided to the east of Gavrelle, taking prisoners and machine-guns.
The enemy, under cover of a bombardment, raised to the south-east of Ephey, but we repulsed the raid.
To the north of Polygon Wood there was considerable mortar and artillery activity and hostile artillery was more active in the Neuport sector.

AERIAL ACTIVITIES.

LONDON, Nov. 5.

The Admiralty announces:—
Our air service carried out numerous patrols today, bringing down an enemy machine in the sea, driving down and damaging another, and probably destroying a third.
We raided Engel aerodrome, and bombed the hangars and sheds.
Two of the enemy attacking machines were driven down.
All of ours returned.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

THE ENEMY'S HURRIED DEPARTURE FROM CHEMIN-DES-DAMES.

CHEMIN-DES-DAMES.

LONDON, Nov. 5.

Reuters' Correspondent at French Headquarters says:—
The departure of the Germans from the Chemin des Dames was detected at day-break on Friday. Rifle fire showed that the enemy was there overnight, and a general infantry advance began one hour later, curiously, by the same route which followed up similarly at Lassigny, last spring.

The Germans left trenches and tunnels, intact, kettles full of warm soup being found in the trenches showing the precipitancy of the evacuation.

The advance was necessarily slow, owing to the necessity of care to avoid numerous gaps.

Our galling bombardment on the slopes of the plateaux during the last few days, left the Germans with no option but to surrender the whole line.

FRENCH DISPERSE ATTACKS.

LONDON, Nov. 4.

A French communiqué says:—
Artillery activity continues to be very marked, to the north of Chemin-des-Dames, in the region of Pinon and Vauxaillon.

After a violent bombardment, the Germans twice attacked to the north of Chateau Wood, on the right of the Meuse. Our fire dispersed the assailants with heavy loss.

ITALIANS REPULSE ATTACKS.

LONDON, Nov. 4.

An Italian official message states:—
We repulsed a strong attack against our advanced posts in the Doone and Giunella Valleys, in the Giudicarie sector.

ACTIVITY IN THE TIGRIS REGION.

LONDON, Nov. 4.

An official message from Mesopotamia states:—
A reconnoitring column engaged the Turks on the right bank of the Tigris, opposite Dur. The enemy withdrew towards Tahr, under the cover of a strong rear-guard line of trenches and occupied the whole position. Our cavalry harassed the retreating enemy all day, taking eighty-nine prisoners.

THE NORTH SEA CONVOY.

FURTHER DETAILS OF GERMAN BRUTALITY.

LONDON, Nov. 4.

Continuing the account of the German brutality when attacking the North Sea convoy, the Norwegian newspaper *Tidens Tidende* says:—
A shell went right through the Swedish ship *Wendag* and exploded in a lifeboat on the other side, killing all the occupants—14 men and three women.

The other lifeboat rowed back to rescue the Captain and two waitresses from the wreck. A shell struck the boat and killed five, only the mate escaping by swimming.

The *Wendag* was now a mass of flames. Two girls jumped into the sea and were drowned. The Captain was saved by clinging to the wreckage.

Two women on a sinking English ship waved a white flag, but the answer was a shot, which killed both.

Twelve men on another ship had just got into a lifeboat when a shell killed them all.

EX-KING CONSTANTINE'S DUPLICITY.

INTERESTING REVELATIONS.

ATHENS, Nov. 5.

The telegrams secretly exchanged between Athens and Berlin, have all been deciphered, and conclusively prove that ex-King Constantine and his Queen were acting on behalf of Germany, with the Gounaris, Skoufdis and Lambros Cabinets as mere tools.

The Queen telegraphed to the Kaiser, in November 1916, anxiously enquiring when the Central Powers would be ready for an offensive in Macedonia, and urging a German attack on General Sarrail's left wing. The Queen and ex-King Constantine, on January 2nd, telegraphed the Kaiser that the situation would become desperate, unless the Germans attacked immediately. The Kaiser replied, saying that the telegram had caused him deep emotion, admiring their courage in a "horrible position," and declaring that "Tino" must act against his executioners, by attacking General Sarrail's left flank.

Other telegrams which passed between the Kaiser and Constantine, "M. Zolotarev" and "M. Tschiling," the Minister in Berlin, show the part played by the Royal Government in organizing bands, with the object of cutting the Menastir-Salonika railway and harassing General Sarrail's rear.

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JAPAN'S UNUSED ARMY.

ITALIAN PLEA FOR INTERVENTION.

The Russian debacle is the occasion of an important inspired appeal in the "Corriere della Sera" for the intervention of the Japanese army.

It is well-nigh incredible that the Entente Powers should actually be postponing supreme battles in order to await the arrival of troops of a great nation ago to transform its commercial population into soldiers, whereas the Entente Powers have been steadily declining, during the past three years, the use of a strong, well-equipped army, endowed with perhaps the most mercurial spirit on earth.

There will come a time when this missed opportunity of Japanese aid will be considered the worst error of the Allies. There are no insurmountable material difficulties, for the same ships which are to convey to Europe the soldiers of the Stars and Stripes could have brought across those of the Rising Sun.

It is not needful to know the secrets of diplomacy to divine that the leading Allied States feared that they would have to pay too heavy a price for Eastern help. They have not reflected that a speedy victory would have been won, and that the saving of innumerable lives and immense sums of money would have largely compensated them for the granting of territory or the addition of prestige to our valiant Ally. What, alas! they have done is to apply to the tremendous tragedy of the world war habits contrived by Governments—bad old habits of half-measures and upsurings contrived by Governments formed on a Parliamentary basis.

Not a single responsible statesman among the Allies has had the timely insight to urge a straightforward bid for Japan's intervention; while nobody of prominence in the political world has shown himself capable of wrenching from the Entente so salutary a measure.

MR. GERARD AS EMBASSY BOUNCER.

Mr. James W. Gerard, is his most recent article in the "Daily Telegraph," corrects a popular legend regarding one of his acts as American Ambassador to the Kaiser's Court.

The legend indirectly grew out of the belief, fostered in Germany by the Kaiser's Government and certain American, that President Wilson did not represent American public opinion. "One of the most active of these," writes Mr. Gerard, "was a man named Maurice Sowborth, a German-American. So bold did he become that he even, in the presence of a number of persons in my room, one day said that he would like to hang Secretary Bryan as high as Haman and President Wilson one foot higher."

Here the former Ambassador sets his story aright with his own version of what followed the words of the would-be hangman:—
"The American newspapers stated that I called a servant and had him thrown out of the Embassy. This statement is not entirely true. I selfishly kept that pleasure for myself."

SHELL SHOCK CAUSES MAN TO FORGET HIS MARRIAGE.

Loss of memory due to shell shock was advanced as a defence to a charge of bigamy by Frank Mitchell, a sergeant in the Army, who was committed for trial at Sunderland recently.

Emily May Mitchell, who was a widow with two children when she married Mitchell last February, said that Mitchell deserted her in June; and Elizabeth Barnes, a nurse, of Sunderland, said that she married Mitchell, who was a patient at her hospital, on August 22. They passed two days together, and Mitchell then returned to hospital.

Mitchell, who has been under treatment for a long time, suffering from the effects of shell explosion, said that he had no recollection of his first marriage, and his wife told the court that she believed him.

FERRETS FOR THE FRONT.

The little consequences of the war are numberless and often inexplicable. It is now agitating the ferrets. Great Britain, before the war, bred ferrets for the world, and then the world forgot it wanted them. Now they are being rapidly mobilised and are being sent to France to fight the rats, especially in the Somme region.

A British soldier, fighting on the Italian front, writes: "Tommy is an adaptable bird. He eats his macaroni and cheese and drinks his chianti (we get Italian rations), with the same gusto as a 'Dixie' stew and a pot of beer. He is also Anglicising the Italian language in the same way as the Anglicised French. This is a source of never-ending amusement to the Italians."

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.

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THE SHANGHAI STOCK EXCHANGE CASE.

EXPULSED BROKER'S ACTION DISMISSED.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on October 31, the Assistant Judge (Mr. Skinner Turner) gave judgment (in favour of the defendants) in the action brought by Mr. I. R. Michael against the Shanghai Stock Exchange, claiming a declaration that he was a member of the Shanghai Stock Exchange and entitled to enjoy and exercise the privileges of such membership.

Mr. N. C. Home appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. R. F. C. Master defended.

His Lordship in a very lengthy judgment gave the following history of the case:—This case comes before me under very unusual circumstances. The Shanghai Stock Exchange, which was apparently in existence for some years before incorporation as a company, decided in 1904 or 1905 to apply for registration in Hongkong under the Companies Ordinance then in force (that is the Ordinance of 1905) as a company limited by guarantee and having no shareholders. At that time the present plaintiff was a member of the Exchange.

After obtaining the licence of the Governor to omit the word "limited" in its name, it received a Certificate of Incorporation on February 1, 1906. The plaintiff is described as an original member; his certificate of membership is dated December 2, 1904, and is in the following terms: "This is to certify that Isaac Raymond Michael is a registered proprietor of one seat, No. 19, in the Shanghai Stock Exchange, that is held by the said Isaac Raymond Michael, subject to the rules and regulations of the said Shanghai Stock Exchange, dated the 2nd of December, 1904," signed by the chairman and secretary and with the official seal of the Shanghai Stock Exchange. Its Memorandum of Association was registered and certain Regulations appear on the file also as having been registered. The Memorandum as filed is signed but the signatures are not witnessed. The Regulations as filed are unsigned and unwitnessed, but there has been produced to me a copy of these Regulations which bears the signature of the plaintiff. The Exchange so constituted carried on its functions in Shanghai. In June 1910, there was considerable difficulty over the Settlement, the result of the rubber boom. Several brokers were in difficulties and after an ineffectual attempt had been made to tide over the difficulties amongst the members of the Exchange itself, an arrangement was come to with the Cathay Trust, Ltd., whereby that Company advanced considerable money to the Exchange for the assistance of these brokers and took over securities and shares from them: this arrangement was embodied in writing and the assisted brokers also in their turn entered into written engagements with the Exchange in return for the assistance they received. The plaintiff was one of the assisted brokers and received nearly five lakhs of the money advanced by the Cathay Trust. The Exchange then proceeded to make its inquiries into the business of those brokers, who had undertaken to produce their books for this inquiry and to assist in it. In November, 1910, the plaintiff was found repudiating part at all events of his agreement: he never produced his books nor gave assistance to the auditors appointed to make the inquiries. The Committee, then, in December, 1910, purported to suspend the plaintiff from the Exchange; and instituted criminal proceedings against him, which resulted in his acquittal. At this time too, they had before them the report of the auditor on his accounts. In March, 1911, after the conclusion of the criminal case the committee called an extraordinary general meeting to consider the advisability of expelling certain members from the Exchange. Before that meeting was held the present plaintiff presented a petition to this Court to wind up the company as it was insolvent. That petition was withdrawn by the plaintiff on April 28, 1911, after the notice of his expulsion (the last special leave given him to present another petition): mainly in consequence of an arrangement between the Stock Exchange and the Cathay Trust, under which the latter practically gave up its right to repayment of the money advanced. An extraordinary general meeting was held on April 10, 1911; and, with a proper quorum and by the necessary majority, passed a resolution expelling the plaintiff from membership and forbidding his seat in the Exchange from that day till the commencement of this case, nothing seems to have been heard of the matter, nor has the plaintiff been called upon to pay interest on the money advanced him nor to repay the capital. Now the plaintiff asks this Court to make a declaration that he was illegally expelled from the company; and he offers no sort of explanation of this amazing delay in trying to rectify wrongs alleged to have been done him in December, 1910 and April, 1911. He never went into the box at all, even though I hinted very strongly more than once in the course of the case that explanations were very desirable; and I am thrown back on the admitted documents in the case and on the evidence of the defendants, put before me. Many points have been taken on the plaintiff's behalf, even to the extent of suggesting that this company was not a company at all, and that its transaction with the Cathay Trust of which he took full advantage to the tune of £473,000 was outside its powers, though that was not the ground on which he presented his petition to wind up in 1911. I do not think that he is in any way entitled to put forward these points; he is partly responsible for the formation of the defendant company, as it stood in 1905 and he profited to the full by the cash transaction.

After reviewing at great length the arguments put before him, His Lordship dismissed the action with costs. His Lordship remarked that no application had been made to him to give special relief as to the forfeiture of the seat; and he did not think that in a case like this, with its amazing and inexplicable delay, any special advantage should be given to the plaintiff even on this point.

After further argument, His Lordship said he did not propose to go any further than he had already done.

Mr. Home gave notice of appeal.

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HONGKONG.

VISCOUNT GREY OF FALLODEN.

READS HIS OBITUARY NOTICES IN THE GERMAN PRESS.

Nearly all the German newspapers contain Earl Grey, who died recently, with their old "arch-enemy," Sir Edward Grey, and publish long biographies of "Britain's former Foreign Secretary." Apart from this mixture of identities, the most remarkable feature about their comments is that they are all eulogistic, and some even sympathetic.

The Krupp organ, the "Berliner westfälische Zeitung," declares that "it is very probable that neither Grey nor King Edward desired war with Germany. Grey's foreign policy was supported by the overwhelming majority of the English people. He was certainly not the man to force his country into the present developments," but must rather be regarded as the real savior of the people's will.

The Krupp organ adds that it considers "the late Viscount Grey" as a statesman of the first order, whose only fault was that of having ignored the enemy. "It will remain unique in the annals of English foreign policy," the journal concludes. "That the Foreign Secretary knew nothing at all about the continent of Europe."

The Cologne "Volksfreund" is also the only journal to strike a discordant note. "Viscount Grey," it says, "can boast from Edward Grey's name the necessary ability for having desired to isolate Germany, for that is what really brought about the war." Daily Express.

The double-headed eagle is the symbol of the Russian Empire, and will never fight the Russian Empire, says a San Francisco paper.

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Hongkong, Nov. 3, 1917. 2235

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No Fire Insurance whatever will be affected. No Claims will be recognised after the Goods have left the Steamer or Godown. All chafed and damaged Cargo will be landed into the Company's Godown, where they will be examined on 5th November at 10 a.m.

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Hongkong, Oct. 30, 1917. 2249

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